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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

NEA FOR FRONT OFFICE; NEA/SA/EX FOR RICHIE; DEPT FOR  
DS/IP/ITA; DEPT FOR DS/IP/NEA; NSC FOR ABRAMS/DANIN; USAID  
FOR DCHA, DCHA/FPP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KWBC](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [GZ](#) [IS](#)

SUBJECT: WB/G SITREP: IDF SOLDIER KILLS FIVE ISRAELI ARABS  
IN GALLILEE; IDF KILLS THREE-MAN MORTAR CREW IN GAZA; SEVEN  
PIJ MEMBERS ARRESTED IN WEST BANK. AUGUST 5, 2005 (1400  
HOURS LOCAL)

This is a joint ConGen Jerusalem/Embassy Tel Aviv cable.

1. (SBU) Summary: A religious, right-wing IDF soldier, who  
had been AWOL for a month, killed four Israeli Arabs on a bus  
in the north of Israel on August 4, before a crowd killed him  
(septel). IDF soldiers overnight killed three Palestinians  
who approached the Gush Katif settlement, reportedly with the  
apparent intention of firing mortar shells and rockets into  
the settlement. In the West Bank, the IDF arrested seven PIJ  
members near Ramallah and Hebron. End summary.

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Gaza  
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2. (SBU) ATTACKS:

-- Deaths: IDF soldiers killed three Palestinians who were  
preparing to fire mortar shells and anti-tank rockets into  
the the Gush Katif settlement bloc overnight August 4-5.

-- Injuries/Clan Dispute: According to UNRWA, two members of  
a Gaza City family were shot and wounded in a dispute that  
broke out around 2300 on August 4 in the Rimal Quarter of  
Gaza City. Members of the Hillis and Tabash families chased,  
and shot at, each other near President Abbas's Gaza City  
residence. Force 17 guards reportedly fired their weapons  
when the battling families neared the presidential residence.

-- Mortars/Rockets: The IDF reported three mortar attacks  
(seven shells). On August 4, a shell was launched at Netzer  
Hazani at 0555. At 0720 on August 4, five shells were  
launched at an IDF outpost near Khan Yunis. Another shell  
was launched at 2045 on August 4 toward Netzarim. No  
injuries were reported from these incidents. No rocket fire  
was reported.

-- Shootings: The IDF reported three shooting incidents on  
August 4. At 0540, gunmen opened fire on IDF soldiers near  
an IDF outpost south of Netzer Hazani. At 1100 on August 4,  
gunmen fired at Israeli civilians north of Rafah. At 1555 on  
August 4, gunmen fired at soldiers in an IDF outpost east of  
Rafiah Yam.

-- Shootings/Intra-Palestinian: Palestinian sources reported  
an exchange of gunfire between Hamas members and PA police  
and Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades members in Gaza City around 2300  
on August 4.

-- Explosions: The IDF destroyed an explosive device  
discovered at 1520 on August 4 about 1 km west of Gan Or.  
Palestinian police discovered another device about 1 km north  
of Sufa Crossing at 2000 on August 4. IDF soldiers  
dismantled the device.

3. (SBU) ARRESTS: None reported.

4. (SBU) INCURSIONS/DEMOLITIONS: None reported.

5. (SBU) BORDER CROSSINGS:

-- No information was available on August 5.

6. (SBU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

-- About 120 anti-disengagement demonstrators were arrested  
at the Kissufim Crossing point, Israel Radio reported on  
August 5.

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West Bank  
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7. (SBU) ATTACKS/SECURITY:

-- Deaths: Nil.

-- Injuries: According to Palestinian reports, three Palestinians were injured from tear-gas inhalation after IDF soldiers dispersed a Palestinian demonstration near Salfit, south of Nablus, August 4.

-- Arrests: According to Palestinian sources, IDF forces arrested seven members of Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) August 4 in Ramallah and Hebron areas.

-- Security Incidents: Palestinian media reported that shots were fired at the residence of Tulkarm mayor August 4. No injuries were reported.

-- Shootings: According to Israeli media, Palestinian militants fired at armored Israeli police vehicles near Hermesh settlement August 5. Some damage was caused to the vehicles, while no injuries were reported.

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Israel  
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18. (SBU) At 1750 on August 4, an AWOL IDF soldier shot dead four Israeli Arab civilians on a bus in Shfaram village. Ten persons were reported wounded. A crowd of civilians attacked and killed the soldier, who was identified as a religious 19-year-old Jewish Israeli from the ultra-right Tapuah settlement in the West Bank (see septel).

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